Vol. VI. Numb. 63

THE OBSERVATOR.

A Letter from an Iriſh *Papiſt; with an Anſwer, ſhewing, that their Caſe is not the ſame with that of the* Hungarians, *as he alledges. Hardſhips put on the* Iriſh *Proteſtants in* Ulſter, *who deſerv'd better Treatment. Some Popiſh Principles, which render thoſe that have them, unworthy the Protection of a Proteſtant Government. The* Rehearſal's *Principles, make the Queen an Uſurper, and the Parliament and Nation Rebels. Revolution-men to blame for not proſecuting that Libeller.*

From **Saturday**, October 4. to **Wednesday**, October 8. 1707.

Country-m. MAſter, here's a Letter to you, from an *Iriſh*-man, with ſome Queries, to which he deſires your Anſwer.

Obſ. What are they, *Roger?*

Country-m. The Subſtance of them, is, if what my old Maſter writ ſo oft in Defence of the *Hungarians*, will not juſtify the *Iriſh* Papiſhes, to take the ſame Meaſures for recovering their Liberty and Property, ſince the Articles of *Limrick* are entrench'd upon by the late Acts in *Ireland*, for preventing the Growth of Popery.

Obſ. The Queries look like the Product of wild *Iriſh* Underſtanding, *Roger:* There's no Manner of Parellel in the Caſes; but I ſhall anſwer his Queries by ſome others. 1. How he can make it appear, that the Acts he mentions, intrench upon the Articles of *Limrick?* 2. Whether his Country-men have perform'd them on their Part? 3. Whether the foul Practices they are charg'd with, in the Votes of the *Iriſh* Parliament, be true? 4. Whether Papiſts, by owning a foreign Head, and the Power which he aſſumes over all Princes and States, don't thereby forfeit their Right to the Protection of their natural Soveraigns? 5. Whether the *Iriſh* Rebellion of 1641, and 1689, be not plain Demonſtrations againſt his Country-men? That they are ready, on all Occaſions, to murder the Proteſtants, and ſhake off the *Engliſh* Government? And that from their Principles of their Church? 6. Whether it was not by the Influence of the *Iriſh* Papiſts, that the laſt Act againſt them was clogg'd here in *England*, with a Clauſe to make the Proteſtants in the *North* of *Ireland* (moſt of whom are known to be Preſbyterians) uncapable of any publick Poſt, without conforming to the Church of *Ireland*, which is much the ſame with that of *England*, tho' thoſe Preſbyterians have twice in 50 Years Time, been the chief Inſtruments of ſaving that Kingdom to the Crown of *England*, and of preventing the Ruin of the Church of *Ireland*, and the Proteſtant Intereſt there? 7. Whether this Gentleman and his Friends, are not become more bold and daring, ſince thoſe Proteſtants of the *North* have been ſo treated?

At the ſame Time, *Roger*, tho' the Council of *Conſtance* determin'd in the Caſe of *John Huſſe*, and *Jerome* of *Prague*, *That Faith is not to be kept to Hereticks*; and tho' the Practices of our Queen *Mary*, and the late King *James*, towards their Proteſtant Subjects, were exactly according to that Determination, I am free to declare my Opinion, that we ought to keep our Agreements with Papiſts, when made by lawful Powers, and in a legal Manner: Nor am I for perſecuting, even a Papiſt, on the Account of his Religion; but ſince moſt Papiſts entertain Principles pernicious to all Society, I think every Proteſtant Government has a Right to impoſe a Teſt upon them, to make them renounce the Pope's uſurp'd Power over Princes; to abſolve their Subjects from their Allegiance; to diſpenſe with Oaths and other Contracts betwixt Papiſts and Proteſtants; to diſpoſe of Benefices or Titles in their Dominions, without their Conſent; and to allow Papiſts to murder Proteſtants: For whatever Papiſt entertains ſuch Principles, or refuſes to renounce 'em, I make no Doubt to ſay, that ſuch a Man's Religion is Rebellion, and he has no Right to the Protection of any Government under which he lives. But for the other Points of Popery, which are not the Doctrines of the Court, but of the Church of *Rome*, betwixt which the moderate Papiſts themſelves have always made a Diſtinction, inſtead of forcing them in any Sort from thoſe Opinions; I ſhould think it better, to do as the Church of *Scotland* has done, *viz.* to appoint Proteſtant Miſſionaries to go among the Papiſts, in order to convince them by fair Argument, and mild, prudent Treatment; a Method I could wiſh were practis'd both in *England* and *Ireland*. This might probably be the moſt effectual Way to prevent the Growth of Popery, both here and there, and ſecure the Government of the Allegiance of ſo many thouſands of Subjects, which now they cannot depend upon; but on the contrary, have Reaſon to apprehend their laying hold of all Opportunities to fall in with our Proteſtant *Jacobites*, to diſturb and overthrow the Government, in Favour of the St. *Germains* Family.

Country-m. The St. *Germains* Family, Maſter! Does not the *Rehearſal* maintain ſuch Principles every Day, as tend to ſupport their Title, and to ſhake thoſe of the Revolution, and old *Engliſh* Liberties, upon which the preſent Government is founded? And you ſee, he goes on without Controul. My poor old Maſter was *Crown-Offic'd*, and at laſt butcher'd, tho' he always maintain'd the Liberties of his Country, and the Queen's Title.

Pray, Maſter, read the *Rehearſal* of *Wedneſday* the firſt Inſtant, and ſee how he treats Mr. *Hoadly*, for being againſt Paſſive-Obedience as it was preach'd up in the late Reigns, and how poſitively he aſſerts, "*That neither Parliament* "*nor People ever had, or ought to have any Power* "*of Coercion upon the Perſons of our Princes.* Now, Maſter, according to my Country Capacity,

if the *Rehearſer* be right in this, the Convention and Parliament, who abdicated the late King, and ſettl'd the Crown upon her preſent Majeſty, failing her Siſter the late Queen *Mary*, and her Iſſue, were in the Wrong; her preſent Majeſty was a Rebel when ſhe join'd thoſe who took Arms againſt her Father; is now an Uſurper, and the *Hannover* Line muſt all lie under the ſame Charge of Uſurpation.

Obſ. Your Conſequences, *Roger*, are very juſtly drawn from the *Rehearſer*'s Premiſes: I muſt own, that I have often wonder'd at the Man's Aſſurance. He charges like one who is cloath'd with Armour of Proof, or like a Man who has a Charm in his Pocket, that makes him invulnerable. 'Tis ſtrange there ſhould be no Room in the *Crown-Office* for thoſe who dare ſo avowedly attack the Title of the Princeſs that wears it. Not, *Roger*, that I think his cramp Arguments have any Weight in them, for they have been baffl'd by your old Maſter and others a hundred times; but it muſt needs add Confidence to the *Jacobite* Party, when their Champion is ſuffer'd openly to defend their Principles without Controul. This looks as if ſome People were not ſo careful as they ſhould be, to prevent the Growth of that Party. All that you and I can do in this Caſe, *Roger*, is, to expoſe the Falſhood of his Aſſertion, and the Weakneſs of his Arguments; for which I hope we ſhall have an Opportunity. In the mean Time, I would adviſe ſuch as have a Mind to be fully ſatisfy'd in the Juſtice of the late King's Abdication or Dethronement, to read the Speeches and Debates *Pro* and *Con* upon that Subject, in the Convention; but eſpecially a Piece printed in the third Volume of *State-Tracts*, Intituled, *The Revolution vindicated, in an Anſwer to the two Memorials, and the Proteſtation againſt the Peace treated at* Ryſwick, *and other Papers publiſh'd in the late King* James's *Name. In which, particularly the Matter of the Abdication, or the Senſe in which King* James *is ſaid to have abdicated, is more fully explain'd, than has yet been done. Publiſh'd from the Manuſcript.*

Country-m. Maſter, I thank you for your Directions, but they are of more Uſe to Schollards, than ſuch Country Volks as your honeſt *Roger*. I am for proſecuting ſuch Men as the *Rehearſer*, according to the Acts that make it High Treaſon *to oppoſe her Majeſty's Title, or by any overt Act or Deed endeavour to deprive or hinder the Proteſtant Succeſſion*. And ſince both her Majeſty's Title, and that of the Houſe of *Hannover*, are founded upon *the Power of Coercion*, which our Convention and Parliament exerted with Relation to the late King *James*, and his pretended Son; I take the *Rehearſer* to be guilty of Treaſon: And tho' I am not to wonder, that thoſe Great Volks, whoſe Names are ſtill to be ſeen to Acts of Council for pulling up our Conſtitution by the Roots by *Quo Warrantos*, depriving Corporations of their Charters, and turning our Famous and Great City of *London* into a Village, may wink at, or countenance ſuch trayterous Scriblers; yet I cannot chuſe but wonder, Maſter, that none of our Great Revolution-Volks ſhould take him to taſk, ſince, according to his Principles and Pamphlets, they are expos'd to the Nation as Rebels, and Enemies to all Government.

Obſ. I'll tell you a Story, *Roger*. I remember, when I was a young Man, there was a Fellow about Town, that went by the Name of *Tartar*. This Fellow frequented all publick Games, ſuch as Cock-fighting, Bull-baiting, Bear-baiting, and the reſt of thoſe good-natur'd Diverſions; and for a Shilling apiece, would let any Man give him a Box on the Cheek, as hard as he could drive, without flinching at it; for he had a Way of blowing up his Chaps, ſo that a Box on 'em was no more to him, than if you had box'd a Bladder.

Country-m. So, Maſter, then I perceive many of our Revolution-Volks are turn'd *Tartars*, and will let any Man box, and play at Foot-Ball too, with *Engliſh* Liberties, and the natural Rights of Mankind, ſo long as they can enjoy ſuch Titles, and have full Purſes. Do ſuch Men deſerve the Name of Patriots, Maſter?

Obſ. *Roger*, I am againſt Applications, and tickliſh Queſtions. Remember your old Maſter's Fate.

Country-m. Why, Maſter, would you have me, or any true *Engliſh*-man, ſit ſtill patiently, and ſee our ancient Conſtitution ſtabb'd, and our glorious Queen and Parliament libell'd as Rebels? No, Maſter, never, ſo long as *Roger* can eat Beef and Pudding, or handle an Oaken Towel.

Obſ. You are out of Humour, *Roger*; let's take a Cup of *October*, and go to Bed: Next Time I hope you will reaſon more calmly. Good Night, honeſt *Country-man*.

Advertiſements.

*** Whereas there have lately been ſeveral ſcandalous Papers cry'd about by Sham-Hawkers, of the Birth and Education of Mr. John Tutchin, deceas'd, and his Wife, &c. This is to certify, That they are falſe and malicious; and that the Authors of 'em will be proſecuted with the utmoſt Severity of the Law, as ſoon as they are known.

Juſt publiſh'd,

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*** Any Gentleman, who us'd to ſend Notice of Things formerly to Mr. Tutchin, are deſir'd now to direct them to H. Meere, at the Black-Fryar in Black-Fryars, for the Obſervator. Where Advertiſements are taken in.

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